City Manager's Friday Newsletter

Upcoming City Council Agenda Items May 20, 2014

7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting:

- Public Hearing (continued) for group quarters ordinance
- Action on awarding a contract for the Transportation Comprehensive Plan Update
- <u>Discussion</u> regarding a request for partial street vacation on Bonneville Avenue

The agenda list above is partial and tentative. For further information, click here for the City website: http://www.snohomishwa.gov/AgendaCenter/City-Council-Agendas-1

2014 Calendar:

Public Safety Commission

Tuesday, May 13 5 p.m. Fire District Training Annex 1525 Avenue D

Design Review Board

Wednesday, May 14 7 p.m. City Hall Conference Room 116 Union Avenue

No Decision on Recreational Marijuana Businesses in Snohomish

At its May 6 meeting, the City Council determined that the City is not ready for marijuana businesses. Follow-up consideration will not likely happen until later this year.

In November 2012, the voters of Washington State approved Initiative 502, which legalized the possession of small amounts of marijuana for personal consumption by people 21 years and older. The initiative also legalized businesses to produce, process, and sell marijuana at retail. During 2013, the Washington State Liquor Control Board drafted rules for these businesses. Following a lengthy series of public hearings, the rules were adopted by the state in late 2013 and prospective business operators were invited to submit applications. Since December 2013, the Liquor Control Board has been reviewing these applications.

As a preliminary measure, the City Council adopted a six-month moratorium in November 2013 on the permitting and establishment of recreational marijuana businesses in the City. The intent of the moratorium was to provide time to evaluate how the City should respond to the changes to state marijuana laws. The Planning Commission and the City Council studied this complex issue over the first quarter of 2014. As no final decision on changes to the Snohomish Municipal Code was imminent, on April 15 the City Council extended the moratorium for another six months.

Following public hearings in April and May with many citizens providing comment, the City Council determined the best approach is to "wait and see". There are many unknowns facing cities and counties that opt to allow or formally ban marijuana businesses. It is the City Council's preference to defer a decision on a local ordinance pending an evaluation of how the new marijuana economy and anticipated legal challenges play out in other jurisdictions.

For any questions on the City's review of potential marijuana regulations, please contact Planning Director Owen Dennison at (360) 282-3173 or by email at dennison@snohomishwa.gov.

Construction Updates May 2014

Second Street and Lincoln Avenue Traffic Signal Project – Construction Complete

The City is pleased to announce that construction on the Second Street and Lincoln Avenue Traffic Signal Project is complete (photo at right). Centennial Trail users are now currently utilizing the signal to safely cross Second Street.

The City was awarded two grants for the construction of this project, one from a federal grant through the Puget Sound Regional Council and the other through the Washington State Pedestrian and Bicycle Program. More than 90% of the construction costs have been funded by these grants.



View looking east from Second Street, just west of Lincoln Avenue

15th Street and Avenue D Roundabout Project – Construction Underway

The City is pleased to announce that construction on the 15th Street and Avenue D Roundabout Project is underway. Interwest Construction, Inc. has been awarded the construction contract and began construction on May 5th. The project will take approximately three months to complete.

Construction of a bypass road will be the first phase of the project which will allow two-way traffic through the work zone. The project consists of roundabout construction, erosion control, asphalt removal, road realignment, shoulder restoration, sidewalk improvements, channelization, traffic control, temporary lane/road closures, drainage improvements, ADA ramp improvements, and landscaping.

Second Street Overlay Project (Avenue D to Cedar Avenue) – Construction to Begin May 12th

Construction on the Second Street Overlay Project (Avenue D to Cedar Avenue) will begin soon. Lakeridge Paving Co. has been awarded the construction contract. **Construction is scheduled to begin May 12**th, and will take approximately two months to complete. The project consists of asphalt overlay, channelization, traffic control, temporary lane closure, and ADA ramp improvements.

Second Street Overlay Project (Avenue D to Avenue H) – Construction Coming Late Summer 2014

Construction on the Second Street Overlay Project (Avenue D to Avenue H) is coming later this summer. Construction funding for the overlay was awarded to the City by the State Transportation Improvement Board in November 2013. The project consists of asphalt overlay, channelization, traffic control, temporary lane closure, and ADA ramp improvements. Construction is scheduled to begin late summer 2014.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Andy Sics: email sics@snohomishwa.gov or call (360) 282-3174.

Jennifer Anderson Hired as New City Finance Director

The City of Snohomish has hired Jennifer Anderson of Minnesota as its new Finance Director. She is scheduled to begin work in Snohomish on June 9.

Ms. Anderson has worked in executive level management positions in finance for the Minnesota cities of Waconia, Sartell and Big Lake since 1996 and currently serves as a consultant to the State of Minnesota Small Business Development Center. She is also currently providing budget and management financial analysis services to the Municipal Building Commission for the City of Minneapolis and Hennepin County.

"Jennifer Anderson was selected after three very competitive rounds of recruitment for this position," said Snohomish City Manager Larry Bauman. "We were determined to find a candidate with the right mix of financial skills, management experience and overall fit for our organization, and we are glad to have found all of these qualities in Ms. Anderson.

"We're excited to have her join our staff, and her appointment is just in time to help us begin our 2015 budget process this summer," Bauman said.

"I am excited to be joining the Snohomish community," said Anderson. "I look forward to meeting and serving residents and business owners along with the City of Snohomish team."

Ms. Anderson replaces Danny Weinberg, who retired earlier this year after nearly seven years as the director for financial operations for the City of Snohomish.

The position is responsible for budget and finance, utility billing, information services, and City Hall reception.

Street and Collections Crews Working Together to Maintain Street Shoulders

Street shoulders are an important component of road infrastructure that protects the edge of the road surface and supports surface water drainage. Shoulders also provide safe pull-over zones for vehicle break-downs and temporary stops.

Shouldering takes place in the spring once weight restrictions have been lifted and weather conditions permit; planned shouldering work is conducted throughout the entire spring and summer work-season as weather conditions permit.

Street shouldering is a process that requires trucks and equipment to approach the work in tandem. Grading, reclaiming, gravelling, and compacting may all be part of the process depending on the condition of the shoulder. Road gravel can be retrieved in some cases through the grading and retrieval process. Recycled milled asphalt and gravel is used as a top dressing on street shoulders whenever possible, as it provides stability to the shoulder mitigating wash-outs during weather events.

Shoulder wash-outs are common in this area due to numerous wet weather events. Wash-outs that pose a hazard are typically repaired within 24 hours of being identified once the wet weather has ended. All other wash-outs are triaged based on severity and dealt with in a planned manner as resources and conditions permit.



This year's street shoulder maintenance is estimated to take about six staff members two straight weeks to complete (equaling about 650 man hours), rental of a road grader and a sweeper, and the use of the City-owned loader and three dump trucks. This is the first year we have used a road grader to maintain our street shoulders, and we have reclaimed about 200 yards of debris including grass, gravel, sand (from winter weather events), and garbage.

It takes about three years to complete the shoulder maintenance cycle for the entire City. In short, one-third of the City is done each year, and

then the schedule starts all over again. Fortunately, as we continue to do regular maintenance in this manner, the job will get easier, take less time, costs less money and resources, and generate far less debris. All the debris that is generated in the street shoulder maintenance process will need to be cleaned of unwanted material and composted in a large bunker at the City Pit.

2014 Flower Basket Program

The Snohomish Garden Club has been working diligently to get the flower baskets ready for a late May arrival on First Street. City Staff is working to reorganize the basket hangers on the historic light poles before the 105 hanging baskets arrive.

The Snohomish Garden Club has been managing and maintaining the flower basket program for the past couple years with support from City staff as needed.

Historic Downtown Snohomish (HDS), the City of Snohomish, and the Garden Club have been partnering together to share the cost of the flower basket program for the past several years with much success.

HDS's share in the flower basket program for 2014 is \$7,500; the City of Snohomish share is \$7,500; and the Garden Club share is \$5,000. The \$20,000 cost for the 2014 flower basket program equates to \$190 per basket to purchase, care for, and maintain each flower basket seven days a week through the end of August.

The flower basket program has had its ups and downs throughout the years due to the rising cost of the program and unstable economy but it's a great program for the Snohomish Historic District and well worth the expense.



Park staff installing flower basket hangers on First Street

Snohomish Sunday Farmer's Market

When making preparations for Sunday dinner this summer, don't forget... The Snohomish Sunday Farmer's Market opens its second season on June $\mathbf{1}^{\text{st}}$. Hours are 11 am to 3 pm.

The focus is on the small family farmers around Snohomish. Returning from last year are Gypsy Rows AKA the School Bus, Caruso Farm, and Flying Tomato. Also back in the lineup is Bee Haven Honey, Martiny Livestock (lamb bacon), Sno Country Farm, la's Garden, Ardmor Farm, and Bright Idea Acres.

Find top notch, one of a kind arts and crafts from Turtleworks, Bad Bee, Rag Tag Rugs, Dorothea's Milk Soap, and Bee Haven's beeswax candles and soap. Grab a quick bite from Diggiddy Dog and enjoy the non-gmo kettle corn from Johnny's.



The Market is located at Third Street and Lincoln Avenue, next to the Boys & Girls Club and Snohomish Skate Park. Enjoy a bike ride or walk along the Centennial Trail. We are a short distance from the Library, Senior Center, and McDaniel's Hardware.

Enjoy locally grown Sundays in Snohomish.

For More Information Contact Neil Landaas, rockfish5@seanet.com.

Find us on Facebook at Snohomish Sunday Farmer's Market.

Grand Marshal Kandace Harvey Leads Pacific NW's Largest Parade

The Kla Ha Ya Days Festival has been entertaining families since 1913 and this year the Parade is on Saturday July 19th.



Long-standing community supporter Kandace Harvey will lead the Kla Ha Ya Days parade at 10:30 am on July 19th as its Grand Marshal. "One of the reasons this community is so viable is because of people like Kandace Harvey," said Tammie Isackson, president of Kla Ha Ya Days Festival. "The honor of Grand Marshal is our way of saying 'thank you' to an exceptional person who has given so much."

Ms. Harvey, owner of Harvey Field, has been instrumental in seeing that organizations that benefit

the community are well run, financially stable, and sustainable.

The Snohomish Community Food Bank was her first passionate love in the community. She sat on its board for 28 years. Other involvements that went from concept to solid buildings include the Boys & Girls Club of Snohomish, the Snohomish Affordable Housing Group, and the Snohomish Senior Center.

Harvey is the first to give others credit for these remarkable achievements. "This community is a very generous one," she says as she names other community leaders who have donated time, money, and talents. "Snohomish has a great track record of giving which makes you want to live in this community and step up to the plate by contributing." Two other very important organizations that she supports are the Snohomish Education Foundation and Housing Hope.

A lifetime area resident, Harvey graduated from Snohomish High School and married into the Harvey family in 1968. She and husband Dick raised four children who all are involved in businesses at Harvey Field, the homestead on which the airport was developed in 1944.

Harvey Field continues its many years of hosting Kla Ha Ya Days activities. This year festival attendees can take an airport tour, watch the volleyball tournament, catch the carnival, or take an airplane ride from July 16-20.

"It's times like this when the community comes together that makes all our contributions worthwhile," adds Kandace Harvey.

For more information and a schedule of the July 16 – 20 events, go to http://www.klahayadays.com/.

About Kla Ha Ya Days Festival

The Kla Ha Ya Days Festival (KHYDF) is a nonprofit organization that produces an annual local festival to welcome people throughout the Pacific Northwest to celebrate the community's beauty and goodwill of Snohomish. Proceeds from the KHYDF's activities support Snohomish-based community organizations with programs and services for youth and families. For more information contact Jim Garcia at (425) 478-4733 or visit the website http://www.klahayadays.com/.